

By taking work home to complete <sup>has</sup> without the aid of an educator, students are at risk of teaching themselves incorrectly. Homework creates a negative effect if the student is learning in the wrong way. It is extremely difficult to get rid of these habits. Study is usually inefficient with younger children, as they are unsure of how to do it correctly without a supervisor. Edna Bunker, mother, claims that she has to spend all her time helping with homework, rather than doing other important things. "I'll spend half a day showing him how to do something and he'll know how to do it as long as I'm sitting here. But if I move and say do it on your own, all of a sudden it's like, 'What?'" If students are constantly practising in the wrong way at home, school results will begin to change, as that is how they remember to work out an answer. This will then leave a student behind, and this often causes them to feel bad about themselves and lose confidence. Homework is ineffective as students often make mistakes and have no one to correct them, enforcing bad working habits that are difficult to forget. If students are given homework later in school then they will have learned the correct way of doing things earlier.

Although some may argue that homework greatly benefits students' results this is in fact not true. Homework simply has little to no effect on primary school students. According to many studies, homework is not beneficial to students in their early years, but at high school, homework can serve to increase in results. However, this is not always the case. Students have a hard time adjusting to high school and adding homework to their already busy schedule is very overwhelming. This can cause marks to drop and affect students emotionally. This is why homework should only be expected of older high school students, when they have completely settled in and can take on the extra work. Australian students of age seven to eight spend an average of 954 hours in the classroom per year. This is a very large amount, and the extra work is definitely not needed. The American educator Alfie Kohn says in his book *The Homework Myth* "homework provides absolutely no academic benefits for younger students" and evidence "challenges the belief that homework promotes independence and good work habits". This professional opinion shows that homework does not provide a better outcome of results in younger students. This means that homework should not be expected from students of year 10 and below, as it can actually have a negative effect or none at all, which means that it is not serving its purpose.

The assumption that homework helps to prepare younger students for the future is incorrect. Homework is stressful for students which can cause conflict between a family. It can force a student into practising bad habits and stops them from attending important real life experiences. It is not beneficial for younger children and can be overwhelming for early high school students. Because of these factors, homework should only be relevant for year 11 students and up.

Yours sincerely,

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